

Connecticut Weekly AGRICULTURAL REPORT

Dannel P. Malloy, Governor
Steven K. Reviczky, Commissioner
Steve Jensen, Editor



Connecticut Department of Agriculture
Sept. 15, 2015



Photo courtesy Robert Pagini/ CT Forest & Park Association

A view of Bilger Farm in Meriden from nearby Chauncey Peak, along part of the New England Trail.

FARMS IN MERIDEN, SALISBURY LATEST TO BE PROTECTED BY AGRICULTURE DEPARTMENT

One of the last farms in Meriden and a Salisbury farm used to support beef cattle are the two latest farms to be protected for agricultural use only under the state's Farmland Preservation Program.

Bilger Farm in Meriden is the first in the city to be protected under the program, while Long Pond Farm in Salisbury is part of a cluster of nearly 1,300 acres of farmland protected by the state and other organizations.

The two farms bring the number of farms protected under the state program to 314, totaling more than 40,000 acres, including seven farms this year.

"Ensuring that farmland remains available for agricultural production in perpetuity is one of the most important tools we have to continue to sustain Connecticut's robust agricultural growth, Agriculture Commissioner Steven K. Reviczky said. "I am pleased that we are continuing to use the Farmland Preservation Program to support food and fiber production in both rural and urban communities across the state."

The 76-acre Bilger Farm was the last dairy farm in Meriden when it stopped producing milk in 1996. From 2000 to 2010, beef cows and replacement heifers were raised on the farm, which is now used to grow hay for livestock support.

The Westfield Road farm contains 53 acres of prime and statewide important soils and 19 acres of locally important farmland soils. It is owned by Lucille Bilger, whose parents

Emma and George once ran the dairy. She is the last remaining Bilger in the family, after the passing of her 82-year-old brother David in a tractor accident on the farm in 2010 - an incident that helped prompt her decision to convey the farm's development rights to the state.

"My family has operated and loved our farm for a number of generations and have always wished to have it preserved as a farm for future generations as well," she said. "Over the years my brothers and I have turned down offers from developers, hoping that we could ultimately preserve the farm."

Connecticut Farmland Trust also contributed funding for the conveyance.

"It is one of the last farms in Meriden and a very desirable location," said Elisabeth Moore, Executive Director of Connecticut Farmland Trust. "If it weren't for the passion of Lucille Bilger and her family to protect it, it would most certainly have been developed."

The farm is now managed by the Perzanowski brothers, long-time neighbors who for years have assisted the Bilgers with haying and maintenance. The property contains a dairy barn, a colonial-style house built circa 1880, and a garage.

Lucille Bilger also recently donated a large adjacent parcel of woods and wetlands to the Meriden Land Trust. The farm is also part of a well-known view from the nearby New England Trail lookout at Chauncey Peak, which is part of the Scenic Trail system designated by the National Park Service.

(Continued on Page 3)

PA LIVESTOCK SUMMARY

Avg. Dressing

SLAUGHTER COWS:	LOW	HIGH
breakers 75-80% lean	89.00	95.00
boners 80-85% lean	87.00	94.00
lean 88-90% lean	81.00	87.00
SLAUGHTER STEERS		
HiCh/Prm 3-4	143.00	147.50
Ch2-3	140.00	143.00
Sel1-3	136.50	139.00
SLAUGHTER HOLSTEINS		
HiCh/Prm 3-4	130.00	135.00
Ch2-3	124.00	127.50
Sel1-2	118.00	123.50
SLAUGHTER HEIFERS		
No Test		

NEW HOLLAND, PA

CALVES <small>graded bull</small>		
No 1 110-128 lbs	380.00	397.00
No 1 98-108 lbs	402.00	422.00
No 1 90-96 lbs	430.00	450.00

NEW HOLLAND, PA

SLAUGHTER LAMBS: Non-Traditional	Markets:	
Ch/Prime 2-3		
60-70 lbs	187.50	205.00
70-80 lbs	196.00	225.00
80-100 lbs	182.50	202.00
100-140 lbs	177.50	210.00
140-160 lbs	184.00	187.50
SLAUGHTER EWES: Choice 1-3		
140-220 lbs	76.00	102.50
BUCKS		
No Test.		
SLAUGHTER KIDS: Select 1, by head, est.		
40-50 lbs	150.00	165.00
50-60 lbs	180.00	200.00
60-80 lbs	215.00	235.00
80-100 lbs	230.00	245.00
100-120 lbs	255.00	265.00
120-140 lbs	280.00	295.00
SLAUGHTER NANNIES/DOES: Sel1, by head, est.		
80-130 lbs	230.00	255.00
130-180 lbs	275.00	320.00
SLAUGHTER BUCKS/BILLIES: Select 1		
100-150 lbs	280.00	290.00
150-250 lbs	335.00	350.00

NEW HOLLAND, PA. HOG AUCTION

All prices per cwt.

52-56	200-300 lbs	54.00	57.00
48-52	200-300 lbs	46.00	51.00
Sows, US 1-3			
	300-500 lbs	35.00	38.00
	500-700 lbs	34.50	40.50
Boars			
	200-300 lbs	29.00	32.00
	400-800 lbs	7.00	12.00

WHOLESALE ORGANIC EGGS

Per carton

Ex Large		
Dozen	2.61	3.60
1/2 Doz	1.80	1.95
Large		
Dozen	2.30	3.50
1/2 Doz	1.71	1.90

WHOLESALE FRUITS & VEGETABLES

Boston Terminal and Wholesale Grower Prices

NEW ENGLAND GROWN

	LOW	HIGH
APPLES, CORTLAND, BU, NG	22.00	24.00
APPLES, GALA, US FNCY, LOOSE	20.00	22.00
APPLES, GINGRGLD, USXFCY, 88	22.00	22.00
APPLES, GLDN DEL, BU, NG	25.00	25.00
APPLES, HONEYCRISP, BU, NG	45.00	45.00
APPLES, MACINTOSH, US1, 125	18.00	18.00
APPLES, MAC, US FNCY, LOOSE	18.00	20.00
APPLES, PAULARED, XFCY, 80	18.00	19.00
APPLES, ZESTAR, BU, NG	26.00	26.00
BEANS, CRANBRY, BU/CRT	45.00	48.00
BEANS, GREEN, FLAT, BU/CRT	20.00	30.00
BEANS, GREEN, HND PKD, BU	18.00	30.00
BEANS, WAX, HND PKD, BU	24.00	25.00
BEETS, GOLDEN, 25 LB LOOSE	22.00	22.00
BEETS, RED, BNCHED, 12	18.00	18.00
BROCCOLI, CRWN CUT, 20LBS	16.00	20.00
CABBAGE, GRN, 50LBS	11.00	14.00
CABBAGE, GRN, 12 CT	12.00	15.00
CABBAGE, SAVOY, 40 LBS	18.00	20.00
CAULIFLOWER, 12	20.00	22.00
CIDER, APPLE, 4-1 GAL	18.00	18.00
CIDER, APPLE, 9-1/2 GALLON	20.00	22.00
COLLARDS, 12	11.00	15.00
CORN, 5 DOZ	12.00	15.00
CUCUMBERS, MED, 1-1/9	18.00	20.00
EGGPLANT, PRPLE, 1-1/9	15.00	18.00
KALE, 12 COUNT	18.00	20.00
KHOLRABI, 12 BUNCHES	12.00	16.00
LEEKS, 12 BUNCHES	18.00	20.00
LETTUCE, HYDR0PONIC, 12 CT	15.00	15.00
MUSKMELON, 6 CT	10.00	12.00
NECTARINES, 25 LBS	28.00	28.00
PARSNIPS, 20 LBS	26.00	30.00
PEACHES, 1/2 BU	20.00	25.00
PEARS, BARTLETT, 4/5 BU	24.00	28.00
PEARS, BOSCH, 4/5 BU	25.00	25.00
PEARS, SECKLE, 1/2 BU	15.00	20.00
PEPPERS, BELL, GRN, 1-1/9	15.00	18.00
PEPPERS, CHERRYHOTS, 1-1/9	15.00	15.00
PEPPERS, FRYERS, 1-1/9	15.00	18.00
PEPPERS, HUNGARIAN, 1-1/9	15.00	18.00
PEPPERS, JALAPENO, 1/2 BU	14.00	14.00
PEPPERS, LONG HOTS, 1-1/9	15.00	18.00
PEPPERS, RED, 1-1/9	25.00	30.00
PEPPERS, SUNTAN, 1-1/9	12.00	14.00
PLUMS, PRUNE, 1/2 BU	20.00	20.00
PUMKN, HOWDEN, 36" BIN, M-XL	150.00	225.00
PUMPKINS, MINIS, 1/2 BU	15.00	15.00
PUMPKIN, PIE, 24" BIN, LGE	150.00	150.00
SPINACH, 23 LBS	25.00	25.00
SQUASH, ACORN/BTTNT, 1-1/9	15.00	20.00
SQUASH, GRN, YEL, 1/2 BU	11.00	15.00
SQUASH, HUBBARD, 3-4 CT	10.00	10.00
SQUASH, SPAGHETTI, 1-1/9	15.00	18.00
TOMATOES, 20 LBS	18.00	20.00
TOMATOES, HEIRLOOM, 10LB	20.00	20.00
TOMATOES, PLUMS, 25 LBS	12.00	20.00
WATERMELON, 3 CT	12.00	15.00
WATERMELON, SGR BBY, BIN	235.00	245.00

MIDDLESEX LIVESTOCK AUCTION

Middlefield, CT, September 14, 2015

Bob Calves:	LOW	HIGH
45-60 lbs.	50.00	70.00
61-75 lbs.	170.00	175.00
76-90 lbs.	360.00	365.00
91-105 lbs.	370.00	375.00
106 lbs. & up	385.00	390.00
Farm Calves	395.00	400.00
Starter Calves	55.00	65.00
Veal Calves	145.00	235.00
Open Heifers	150.00	180.00
Beef Heifers	102.00	105.00
Feeder Steers	135.00	175.00
Beef Steers	128.00	138.00
Stock Bulls	135.00	160.00
Beef Bulls	132.00	147.50
Replacement Cows	n/a	n/a
Replacement Heifers	n/a	n/a
Boars	1@	.07
Sows	n/a	n/a
Butcher Hogs	n/a	n/a
Feeder Pigs	45.00	50.00
Sheep	130.00	330.00
Lambs	140.00	380.00
Goats each	120.00	410.00
Kid Goats	130.00	330.00
Canners	up to	97.50
Cutters	98.00	101.00
Utility Grade Cows	102.00	105.00
Rabbits each	5.00	13.00
Chickens each	4.00	22.00
Ducks each	5.00	20.00

NORTHEAST EGGS/USDA

Per doz. Grade A and Grade A white in cartons to retailers (volume buyers)

XTRA LARGE	2.26	2.42
LARGE	2.20	2.34
MEDIUM	1.57	1.70

NEW ENGLAND SHELL EGGS

Per doz. Grade A brown in carton delivered store door. (Range)

XTRA LARGE	2.81	2.91
LARGE	2.78	2.88
MEDIUM	1.89	1.97
SMALL	1.03	1.13

USDA - NATIONAL MONTHLY WHOLESALE GRASS FED BEEF

Des Moines, IA, August 25, 2015

Prices are in dollars per pound

Chuck Roll	5.99	6.20
Shoulder Clod	3.34	5.99
Ribeye, Boneless, Whole	10.82	13.99
Tenderloin, Whole	21.95	24.75
Striploin, Whole	10.99	13.99
Round Cut	4.84	6.20
Bottom Round	3.34	6.20
Eye of Round	4.01	7.99
Brisket, Whole	4.67	5.99
Short Ribs	4.99	8.99
Flank Steak	8.05	10.99
Sirloin Steak	10.30	10.99
Stew Meat	5.96	7.95

FOR SALE

1-R. Blumenthal & Donahue is now Connecticut's first independent NATIONWIDE Agri-Business Insurance Agency. Christmas tree growers, beekeepers, sheep breeders, organic farmers and all others, call us for all your insurance needs. 800-554-8049 or www.bludon.com

2-R. Farm, homeowner and commercial insurance—we do it all. Call Blumenthal & Donahue 800-554-8049 or www.bludon.com

3-R. Gallagher electric fencing for farms, horses, deer control, gardens, & beehives. Sonpal's Power Fence 860-491-2290.

4-R. Packaging for egg sales. New egg cartons, flats, egg cases, 30 doz and 15 doz. Polinsky Farm 860-376-2227.

5-R. Nationwide Agribusiness Insurance Program, endorsed by the CT Farm Bureau, save up to 23% on your farm insurance and get better protection. References available from satisfied farmers. Call Marci today at 203-444-6553.

8-R. CT non-GMO grain and corn. Hay and straw. Pleasant View Farms. Louis. 860-803-0675.

92-R. CORRECTED PRICE: 2000 Dodge 2500, 2WD, needs work. \$1,200.00. 1969 F600 whole or parts with rebuilt 330 ci engine and new clutch. \$800.00 or best offer. 203-577-3184.

94-R. Stafford: \$289,900. Attractive Country Living! Updated 2 bedroom, 2 bath Cape on 3+ acres. Spacious 7 year old barn with 2 bay garage, heated office & full bath. Also includes 14x10 cabin with screened porch. Suitable for small animals, goats, sheep or contractors office. Preston: \$585,000. Former Christmas tree farm on 71+ acres, pond, gravel and frontage on 2 roads. Call Clint Charter, Wallace & Tetreault Realty, 860-558-3908.

95-R. For Sale: Purebred Black Angus cattle. 860-482-7144. Frank McCarty.

96-R. Wooden apple boxes 1 1/9 bu, 2000, \$4/each. 1/2 bushel baskets, \$4/each. Call Doug 860-657-4172.

98-R. Ferguson TO-20. \$1,100.00. Ford 8N with Dearborn snowplow. \$1,400.00. Roof high wheel mower. New condition. \$1,000.00. Call 203-996-6356.

100. For Sale: Backhoe buckets. 16" and 33". 203-264-1185.

101-R. Christmas Greens: Quality wreaths and roping. Many sizes and varieties. Samples gladly shown. 203-457-1344.

WANTED

85-R. Standing timber wanted. Hardwood/Softwood. Top prices paid. Licensed and insured. 10 acre minimum. 860-798-4039.

90-R. Firewood elevator about 30 foot, in good shape. 860-301-1061.

99-R. Help Wanted- Greenhouse Manager. Successful, fast-growing hydroponics operation located in Cheshire is currently seeking a qualified individual to join our team on a year round basis. The successful candidate will possess prior greenhouse experience working in a demanding, fast paced environment. This individual will have a strong attention to detail, the ability to prioritize on a daily basis, and management skills necessary to motivate and lead teams of workers on a project basis. In addition, the innate sense of getting plants to grow optimally is essential. Salary is commensurate with experience. If interested, please contact Allyn Brown at allyn@maplelane.com

MISCELLANEOUS

6-R. Farm/Land specializing in land, farms, and all types of Real Estate. Established Broker with a lifetime of agricultural experience and 40 years of finance. Representing both Buyers and Sellers. Call Clint Charter of Wallace-Tustin Realty (860) 644-5667.

81-R. Brush/small tree mowing with Excavator mounted mower specializing in Farmland Restoration Programs. Excavators also available. Burke Ridge. 860-559-3009.

CT FARM EMPLOYMENT CONNECTION

97-R. Wanted: Working Orchard Manager and passionate person for family owned orchard in Central Connecticut. We grow apples, pears, peaches and nectarines, for pick-your-own, wholesale and our store. Call for more details. 203-213-8833.

**FARMS IN MERIDEN, SALISBURY LATEST TO BE PROTECTED BY AGRICULTURE DEPARTMENT
(Continued from Page 1)**

Long Pond Farm in the Lakeville section of Salisbury is owned by Kerry Douglas, who also owns and manages a vegetable farm in Berkshire County, Mass., where he serves on the board of the Sheffield Land Trust.

The farm is currently leased to Lonnie Morrison of Haisden Farm, who raises hay and corn for beef support on its 61 acres, 46 of which are prime and statewide important soils.

Douglas said he decided to convey the farm's development rights to the state because "we hope to keep farming viable in the Northeast. This land has some of the most productive hay fields in Lakeville, as well as some of the most scenically important."

The farm is located on the north side of Long Pond Road and west side of Sharon Road (Route 41), which is a designated state scenic highway.

It contains lake frontage on Lake Wononpakook, also known as Long Pond, and features an expansive view of the surrounding valley and Mudge Pond, and the Taconic Ridge to the north.

There are currently no structures on the property, but a farm residence limited to 2,600 square feet may be built within a designated area.

The farm is the tenth to be preserved in Salisbury by the Farmland Preservation Program, bringing the total farmland protected in town to nearly 1,300 acres.

Other preserved farms in the area include:

- The 260-acre Blum Farm, preserved in 1987 and now owned by The Hotchkiss School.
- The 40-acre Blagden Farm, preserved in 1989.
- The 180-acre Creel Farm, preserved in 1993.

The farm is also in the vicinity of the Belcher easement held by American Farmland Trust. The majority of the farm is considered Priority Conservation Area in the state's plan of conservation and development.

FARMLAND PRESERVATION ASSISTANT SOUGHT

The Connecticut Department of Agriculture and the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) are seeking a Farmland Preservation Assistant.

The position will serve as an intermediary for farmland preservation groups operating at the town, land trust, state and national levels.

The position will be overseen jointly by the CT NRCS and the agriculture department, and will require working up to 40 hours per week on the Agriculture Land Easements (ALE) Program.

Duties include farmland owner outreach; conducting resource inventories; reviewing conservation plans and agricultural preservation deeds; and conducting farm visits for baseline inventories and stewardship, among other tasks.

Required qualifications include ability to conduct outdoor field assessments; strong communication skills to work with the public and partners, experience with computer software such as Microsoft Word, Excel and Outlook, and a valid driver's license.

Familiarity with GIS, the farming community, Connecticut and USDA agricultural policy, and conservation easements a plus.

A background check is required. Resumes should be submitted to cwbennett@ultimaservices.com.



Photo courtesy Richard McDermott



Photo courtesy CT Farmland Trust

Top: A view of Long Pond Farm in Salisbury, and (above) Bilger Farm in Meriden, the latest two farms to be protected under the state's Farmland Preservation Program.

MORE THAN 60 FARMS, RESTAURANTS, OTHER VENUES TAKING PART IN ANNUAL FARM-TO-CHEF WEEK SEPT. 13-19

More than 60 farms, restaurants, schools, wineries, cafeterias and other foodservice venues throughout the state this week will create and offer special Connecticut Grown menus featuring local ingredients during Farm-to-Chef Week.

Sponsored by the Dept. of Agriculture from Sept. 13-19, the week encourages culinary professionals to use Connecticut Grown ingredients in new ways on their menus while enlightening customers about the extraordinary diversity of the state's farm products.

The wide array of venues offer choices for every taste and budget, from casual take-out to formal multi-course meals. Participants must offer a minimum of four items, with each featuring one or more Connecticut Grown items.

"Farm-to-Chef Week provides Connecticut residents and visitors with an exciting and enjoyable opportunity to sample and learn about the diversity of Connecticut Grown foods," Dept. of Agriculture Cmsr. Steven K. Reviczky said. "It is a week-long showcase of menus created by our state's most talented and creative chefs using ingredients grown and raised by innovative and hard-working farm families."

The Dept. of Agriculture began Farm-to-Chef Week in 2010 as part of its year-round Farm-to-Chef Program, which launched in 2006 and has served as a model for programs in other states.

For more information visit:
ctfarmtochef.com or

www.facebook.com/CTFarmtoChef

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